

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 265560

EXDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. KING PULLS BACK SAHARA MARCHERS

IN HIS TELEVISED SPEECH NOVEMBER 9, KING HASSAN ANNOUNCED THAT THE SAHARA MARCHERS ARE BEING PULLED BACK TO MOROCCO AND HINTED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN WILL CONTINUE. HE ALSO:

--CLAIMED THE MARCH, COMPARABLE TO THOSE OF XENOPHON AND MAO, HAD OBTAINED THE DESIRED RESULTS;

--PRAISED SPAIN AS A FRIEND, ADDING THAT FUTURE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS MUST TAKE PLACE IN AN ATMOSPHERE "FREE OF PRESSURES."

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EMBASSY COMMENT: BY STRESSING THAT THE MARCH HAD SUCCEED-

ED, THE KING STRONGLY IMPLIED THAT A SOLID BASIS HAD BEEN REACHED WITH SPAIN FOR SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS. HE WILL NOW BE UNDER MOUNTING PRESSURE TO SURFACE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HIS DEALINGS WITH SPAIN AND TO DEMONSTRATE WITHIN A REASONABLY SHORT TIME THAT MOROCCAN AIMS ARE INDEED SIGNIFICANTLY ADVANCED. (CONFIDENTIAL) RABAT 5432, 11/9.)

2. KHADDAM TELLS SHAH GENEVA IDEA IS DEAD

COURT MINISTER ALAM TOLD AMBASSADOR HELMS THAT, IN A MEETING WITH THE SHAH, SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM REASSERTED SYRIA'S LACK OF INTEREST IN ANOTHER GENEVA CONFERENCE WHICH, HE SAID, WOULD BE DOOMED TO FAILURE KHADDAM ALSO:

--SEVERELY CRITICIZED EGYPT AND PREDICTED THAT SADAT WILL FALL, MAKING THE US AGAIN THE LOSER (INTERPRETED BY THE SHAH TO MEAN RENEWED SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE AREA);

--SUGGESTED THAT SYRIAN-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS BE HELD UNDER UNSC AEGIS WHERE THE PLO ISSUE WOULD NOT BE A PRECONDITION. (SECRET) TEHRAN 10868 (EXDIS), 11/9.)

3. YEMEN: SAUDI MEDIATION EFFORTS GO AWRY

YEMENI FOREIGN MINISTER ASNAJ TOLD EMBASSY SANA THAT SAUDI PRINCE TURKI'S "UNWELCOME" EFFORTS TO MEDIATE BETWEEN THE YAR AND DISSIDENT TRIBAL ELEMENTS WERE DAMAGING THE CHANCES FOR A COMPROMISE AND PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF YEMENI LEFTISTS. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT, SUBJECT TO EMBASSY JIDDA'S OPINION, WE LET THE SAUDIS KNOW THAT THE INEXPERIENCED TURKI IS NOT HELPING MATTERS. (CONFIDENTIAL) SANA 3099 AND 3103, 11/9.) KISSINGER

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